

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/657,422

Examiner

Michelle K. Lay

Applicant(s)

ARVIN ET AL.

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the appeal brief filed 06 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-16,18-31 and 33-45.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jason S. Feldmar (39,187) on 08 May 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim (1) (currently amended): A method for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, comprising:

- a) displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
- b) displaying a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
- c) activating the button object manipulate, wherein the activating comprises:
 - i. placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and
 - ii. clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator ~~without dragging the button object manipulate~~; and
- d) directly modifying a property of the graphic object without dragging the button object manipulator, in response to the activation.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An apparatus for modifying a property of a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program of a computer system comprising:

- a) a computer having memory;
- b) an application executing on the computer, wherein the application is configured to:
 - i. display a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
 - ii. display a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
 - iii. activate the button object manipulator by:
 - 1. placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and
 - 2. clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator ~~without dragging the button object manipulator~~; and
 - iv. directly modifying a property of the graphic object without dragging the button object manipulator, in response to the activation.

Claim 31 (currently amended): An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for modifying a property of a graphic object in an object-oriented computer graphics drawing system, the method comprising:

- a) means for displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics drawing program, wherein the graphic object comprises one or more graphical elements;
- b) means for displaying a button object manipulator, comprised of a grip, on the graphic object;
- c) means for activating the button object manipulator, wherein the means for activating comprises:
 - i. means for placing a cursor controlled by a pointing device over the button object manipulator; and
 - ii. means for clicking a button on the pointing device to activate the button object manipulator ~~without dragging the button object manipulator~~; and
- d) means for directly modifying a property of the graphic object without dragging the button object manipulator, in response to the activation.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: References Wallace et al. (5,861,889) and Kreegar (5,396,590) teaches manipulating objects

containing buttons and handles via dragging a dragging function. Both references fail to teach or suggest manipulating the objects via the buttons without dragging the button.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michelle K. Lay whose telephone number is (571) 272-7661. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30am to 5:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee M. Tung, can be reached at (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Kee M. Tung
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PATENT EXAMINER